

ILLINOIS.

PROCEEDINGS AND RESOLUTIONS

ADOPTED AT

A MEETING OF CITIZENS OF JACKSONVILLE,

*Against the Bank of the United States.*

MAY 19, 1834.

Read, and laid upon the table.

Agreeably to public notice, a large and respectable meeting of the republican citizens of Morgan county was held at the court-house in Jacksonville, on Saturday, the 29th of March, 1834, for the purpose of giving expression to their sentiments in relation to the recharter of the United States Bank.

The meeting being called to order, on motion of Col. James Evans, W. W. Happy was called to the chair; and on motion of Capt. John Henry, John W. Evans was appointed Secretary.

The following preamble and resolutions were then presented by Stephen A. Douglass, Esq., who, in an appropriate address, explained the objects of the meeting, and vindicated the independent course pursued by our venerable Chief Magistrate in relation to the United States Bank. After Mr. Douglass had concluded his remarks, the motion was put upon the passage of the preamble and resolutions, and they were adopted unanimously.

Whereas it is a fundamental principle of our Government that the people, in case of emergency requiring an expression of their sentiments, have a right peaceably to assemble and advise upon the course most proper to be pursued to effect or attain their wishes: and whereas the present is considered a time pregnant with events of the greatest importance to the welfare of our country, and to the perpetuity of our truly republican Government: and whereas the influence and power of a great moneyed corporation is brought in fearful collision with the constitutional administration of the laws of our country: and whereas we view such an interference, on the part of a corporate body, whose powers are derived, as those of the United States Bank were, from the General Government, as detrimental to the true interests and the peace and happiness of the country: and whereas a memorial has recently been put in circulation in this county, intended to influence Congress to restore the public deposits to the vaults of the United States Bank, and to recharter that institution: Therefore,

*Resolved*, That the Bank of the United States, in excluding the Government directors from the transactions of the board, in placing the funds of the institution at the disposal of its President for electioneering purposes, in interfering with the free exercise of the elective franchise, and attempting to control public opinion through the medium of the press, and in refusing to deliver up the books and papers relative to the pension law, has assumed the exercise of powers unwarranted by its charter, inconsistent with the principles of civil society, and dangerous to the liberties of the people.

*Resolved*, That the Bank of the United States ought not to be rechartered, and that the public deposits ought not to be restored: that the removal of the deposits is not a justification, on the part of the Bank, for curtailing its discounts to such an extent as to produce embarrassment and distress throughout our whole country to the degree complained of by its advocates.

*Resolved*, That, if the United States Bank has the power claimed for it by its friends, of creating or mitigating public embarrassment and distress at the pleasure of its directors, it is additional evidence that its existence should not be perpetuated beyond the time allotted it.

*Resolved*, That the refusal of the President of the United States to sanction its recharter, is not a reasonable or sufficient excuse for such a rapid withdrawal of its notes from circulation, inasmuch as the charter has yet two years to run before it expires, and the directors have two years allowed them after the termination of the charter to call in its notes and wind up its concerns.

*Resolved*, That we have continued, increased, and confirmed confidence in the purity of purpose, integrity, firmness, and patriotism of our venerable Chief Magistrate, Andrew Jackson, and that we will sustain him to the extent of our abilities and to the last extremity in the honest and constitutional discharge of his duties, and especially in his course in relation to the Bank of the United States.

*Resolved*, That we do not object to the establishment of a National Bank upon such principles as are consistent with the rights of the States and the constitution of the United States, and with such restrictions that it cannot interfere with the politics of the country.

*Resolved*, That we disapprove of the memorial recently and now being circulated in this county, as it asserts the existence of a state of things which is not realized in this community, and of which we challenge the memorialists to produce the evidence.

*Resolved*, That our Senators and Representatives in Congress be requested to vote against the restoration of the deposits and the recharter of the United States Bank.

*Resolved*, That a copy of these proceedings be forwarded to each of the Senators and Representatives in Congress from this State, and that they be hereby requested to lay a copy of the same before each House of that honorable body.

*Resolved*, That our republican fellow-citizens in all the other counties of this State be requested to hold meetings as soon as practicable, to give expression to their sentiments on this momentous question.

W. W. HAPPY, *Chairman*.

JOHN W. EVANS, *Secretary*.